

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4356

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2009

CONSUMER PRODUCT TESTING MECHANISM

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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Consumer Product Testing Mechanism;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) the areas identified for setting up of the same, State-wise; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is already having a network of 8 testing laboratories at Sahibabad, Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, Bangalore, Mohali, Patna and Guwahati to support operation of its Product Certification Scheme, apart from 124 other laboratories recognized by it for testing of products, In addition, the test reports issued by laboratories under Central and State Governments, national level institutes like Indian Institutes of Technology and laboratories of Central Universities are also accepted by it for grant of licences.

BIS also has an ongoing enforcement mechanism to check quality of ISI marked products under which raids are done in the licensees' premises and samples are drawn from the factories and market for laboratory tests to ensure conformity of the products to the prescribed Indian Standards.